

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1031

By DeBerry L

A RESOLUTION to urge Congressional support for the establishment of a permanent National Women's History Museum in Washington, DC, on or near the National Mall.

WHEREAS, in 1987 Congress declared March to serve as "Women's History Month" to acknowledge the important role women have played in shaping America; and

WHEREAS, although women constitute a majority of the nation's population, their achievements and contributions are underrepresented in museums and memorials; and

WHEREAS, only 3 percent of the people identified in a recent survey of eighteen history textbooks were women; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, the President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in American History called for a women's history museum to be established on "The National Mall" in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, the National Women's History Museum (NWHM), founded in 1996, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, educational institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the diverse and historic contributions of women, and integrating the heritage of women fully into this nation's history; and

WHEREAS, the NWHM seeks a site on or close to the National Mall and in close proximity to the White House and U.S. Capitol Building; and

WHEREAS, the United States Senate voted unanimously in favor of S. 501, The National Women's History Museum Act of 2005, a bill that directs the General Services Administration to enter into a long-term lease with the NWHM for federal property that has been vacant since 1992; and

WHEREAS, the NWHM will showcase the full history of women in the United States and the contributions they have made and continue to make in the marketplace, arts and sciences, government, entertainment, education, home, and community; and

WHEREAS, a Coalition of 33 women's organizations representing eight million women which includes the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL) supports the efforts of the NWHM to establish a permanent residence on the National Mall, the most prominent location for museums to be situated in the nation's capital; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the State of Tennessee urges the esteemed members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate and the citizens of Tennessee to support the National Women's History Museum's efforts to secure a permanent home on or close to the National Mall for a museum that will highlight the important role women have played in shaping this great nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Clerk of the Senate be directed to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to each member of Tennessee's Congressional delegation.